



County of Los Angeles CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICE

Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration
500 West Temple Street, Room 713, Los Angeles, California 90012
(213) 974-1101
<http://ceo.lacounty.gov>

WILLIAM T FUJIOKA
Chief Executive Officer

April 17, 2009

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To: Supervisor Don Knabe, Chairman
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Supervisor Mark Ridley-Thomas
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From: William T Fujioka
Chief Executive Officer

MOTION TO SUPPORT SENATE BILL 698 (NEGRETE McLEOD) TO INCREASE FUNDING FOR JUVENILE COURT SCHOOLS AND SEND A FIVE-SIGNATURE LETTER IN SUPPORT OF THE BILL TO THE SENATE EDUCATION COMMITTEE FOR THEIR APRIL 29, 2009 HEARING (ITEM NO. 6 - AGENDA OF APRIL 21, 2009)

Item No. 6 on the April 21, 2009 Agenda is a motion by Supervisor Yaroslavsky recommending that the Board of Supervisors support SB 698 (Negrete McLeod), send a five-signature letter in support of the bill to the Senate Education Committee, and instruct the County's Sacramento advocates to pursue support for the bill.

Under current law, the funding allocation for juvenile court schools operated by County superintendents is based on a computation of Statewide revenues for school districts including the Average Daily Attendance (ADA) of students. This funding model disadvantages allocations for juvenile court schools because attendance at these schools is subject to high turnover and fluctuation. Students in juvenile court schools have special needs and miss classes to attend court hearings, court-ordered assessments, or medical appointments. The existing ADA funding model does not take into consideration the special needs of students enrolled in juvenile court schools. Consequently, funding for these schools is insufficient to meet the needs of the students.

SB 698, as amended on April 2, 2009, would change the allocation formula for juvenile court schools from the ADA model to an enrollment-based model. Under the proposed daily enrollment model, the funding allocation would be based on a daily count of wards of the court in placement at a facility with a juvenile court school.

"To Enrich Lives Through Effective And Caring Service"

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The Los Angeles County Office of Education is the sponsor of SB 698. The Probation Department supports the bill because it will provide needed funding for juvenile court schools.

Support for SB 698 is consistent with Board policy to support the California County Superintendents' Educational Services Association proposal to modify the current funding formula for juvenile court schools to one that is based on a bed-unit enhancement ADA model.

SB 698 is supported by the California County Superintendents' Educational Services Association. There is no registered opposition on file. The bill is scheduled for a hearing in the Senate Education Committee on April 29, 2009.

WTF:GK
MAL:MR:VE:sb

c: Executive Officer, Board of Supervisors
County Counsel
Probation Department
Los Angeles County Office of Education